UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS AUSTIN DIVISION

Joseph Anderson,

Plaintiff,

v.

Gila, LLC,

Civil Action No.: 1:14-cv-288

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Defendant.

as follows:

For this Complaint, the Plaintiff, Joseph Anderson, by undersigned counsel, states

JURISDICTION

- 1. This action arises out of Defendant's repeated violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. § 227, et. seq. (the "TCPA").
- 2. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), in that Defendant transacts business here, Plaintiff resides in this judicial district, and a substantial portion of the acts giving rise to this action occurred here.

PARTIES

- 3. The Plaintiff, Joseph Anderson ("Plaintiff"), is an adult individual residing in Lawrence, Kansas, and is a "person" as the term is defined by 47 U.S.C.A. § 153(39).
- 4. The Defendant, Gila, LLC ("Gila"), is a Texas business entity with an address of 8325 Tuscany Way, Building 4, Austin, Texas 78752-3630, "person" as the term is defined by 47 U.S.C.A. § 153(39).

FACTS

- 5. Beginning in or around February 2014, Gila started calling Plaintiff's cellular telephone.
- 6. At all times mentioned herein, Gila contacted Plaintiff using an automated telephone dialer system ("ATDS" or "predictive dialer") and/or by using an artificial or prerecorded voice.
- 7. Plaintiff has no prior relationship with Gila and never provided his consent to be contacted by means of an automated system on his cell phone.
- 8. When he answered the ATDS calls, Plaintiff heard a pre-recorded message that stated, "This is not a telemarketing call...this is an attempt to collect debt...this is the Municipal Service Bureau...please enter your account number..."
 - 9. On at least one occasion, Plaintiff called Gila to speak with a live representative.
- 10. During this conversation, Plaintiff informed Gila's representatives that he did not have any relationship with the company and requested Gila cease all calls to his cell phone.
 - 11. Nonetheless, Gila proceeded to place at least four (4) additional calls to Plaintiff.

COUNT I

<u>VIOLATIONS OF THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT – 47 U.S.C. § 227, et seq.</u>

- 12. The Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this Complaint as though fully stated herein.
- 13. Defendant contacted Plaintiff using an automatic telephone dialing system and/or by using a prerecorded or artificial message on a cellular telephone of 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A)(iii).

- 14. Plaintiff either never provided express consent to Defendant to call his cellular telephone number, and/or Plaintiff revoked his consent to be contacted by Defendant on his cellular telephone by his repeated demands to cease calling his cellular telephone.
- 15. The calls from Defendant to Plaintiff were not placed for "emergency purposes" as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A)(i).
- 16. Each of the aforementioned calls made by Defendant constitutes a negligent or intentional violation of the TCPA, including each of the aforementioned provisions of 47 U.S.C. § 227, et. seq.
- 17. As a result of each of Defendant's negligent violations of the TCPA, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of \$500.00 in statutory damages for each call in violation of the TCPA pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B).
- 18. As a result of each of Defendant's knowing and/or willful violations of the TCPA, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of treble damages in an amount up to \$1,500.00 for each and every violation of the TCPA pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B) and 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(C).

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff prays that judgment be entered against the Defendant:

- 1. Statutory damages of \$500.00 for each violation determined to be negligent pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A);
- 2. Treble damages for each violation determined to be willful and/or knowing pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(C); and
- 3. Such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

TRIAL BY JURY DEMANDED ON ALL COUNTS

Dated: April 3, 2014

Respectfully submitted,

By: <u>/s/ Sergei Lemberg</u>

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